



2/02/06

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

SB 621 (Birkholz)

SB 622 (Stamas)

Senate Bills 621 & 622 would expand the requirements for criminal background checks for new employees at health facilities and agencies and adult foster care facilities. In each case, a request would be made to the Department of State Police to conduct a criminal history check, put the applicant's fingerprints into the Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) database, and to forward fingerprints to the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The State Police would have to request the FBI to make a determination of any national criminal history pertaining to an applicant for employment.

Senate Bill 621 would add two sections to the Public Health Code to require criminal history checks on new employees of a health facility or agency that is a nursing home, county medical facility, hospice, hospital that provides swing bed services, home for the aged, or home health agency.

- The Senate concurred with the House Amendments to SB 621 [RC 48: 36 yes, 0 no].

Senate Bill 622 would amend the Adult Foster Care Facility Licensing Act to apply essentially the same requirements to adult foster care facilities.

- The Senate concurred with the House Amendments to SB 622 [RC 49: 37 yes, 0 no].

GENERAL ORDERS

SB 728 (Hardiman)

Senate Bill 728 would amend the Public Health Code to do the following: Change the name of the Childhood Immunization Registry to the Michigan Care Improvement Registry, beginning on the bill's effective date. Require the Department of Community Health (DCH) to promulgate

rules to implement the expansion of the Registry to include the reporting and recording of additional information, such as lead screening performed on children. Eliminate a provision requiring the DCH to use the Registry information only for immunization purposes, and to delete an individual's information from the Registry when he or she reaches age 20. Delete a requirement that a health professional other than a physician who administers an immunizing agent under a physician's direction be authorized by a local health department.

- *Committee 1 was adopted.*
- *SB 728 was moved to 3rd Reading of Bills.*
- *SB 728 was passed with IE [RC 52: 37 yes, 0 no].*

HB 4670 (Newell)

House Bill 4670 would amend the Public Health Code to allow an individual who was retired from the active practice of medicine, osteopathic medicine and surgery, or podiatric medicine, and who wished to donate his or her expertise for the medical care and treatment of indigent and needy individuals or individuals in medically underserved areas of the State, to obtain a special volunteer license to practice by submitting an application to the applicable board.

- *Committee 1 was adopted.*
- *HB 4670 was moved to 3rd Reading of Bills.*
- *HB 4670 was passed with IE [RC 50: 36 yes, 0 no].*

HB 4855 (Nofs)

HB 4856 (Wenke)

House Bills 4855 and 4856 would amend the General Sales Tax Act and the Use Tax Act, respectively, to create tax exemptions for the sale of certain aircraft or aircraft parts and materials that were temporarily located in Michigan. The bills address a unique situation as it relates to Duncan Aviation and simply levels the playing field in relation to its competitors. According to committee testimony, the company (particularly its Battle Creek facility) has recently lost out on several lucrative contracts because of the imposition of sales and use taxes. Given the cost of aircraft parts, an additional six percent is significant enough for potential customers to take their business elsewhere. Moreover, these are planes that, other than flying to or from the Battle Creek airport for repair and maintenance, would not be taxable in Michigan. The exemptions proposed in the bills would position Duncan Aviation to add jobs and expand its operations in Battle Creek. Further, it is believed that whatever amount of revenue is "lost" by the bills will be more than made up through increased employment and economic activity. In this regard, the bills only improve the state's financial picture and the overall health of its economy and that of the Battle Creek area.

- *Stamas 1 was adopted.*
- *HB 4855 was moved to 3rd Reading of Bills.*
- *HB 4855 was passed with IE [RC 53: 37 yes, 0 no].*

HB 4856:

- HB 4856 was moved to 3rd Reading of Bills [no amendments].
- HB 4856 was passed with IE [RC 54: 37 yes, 0 no].

HB 5375 (Newell)

House Bill 5375 would amend the Public Health Code to provide for civil immunity for retired physicians who volunteered their services at a health facility or agency serving the medically indigent.

- *HB 5375 was moved to 3rd Reading of Bills.*
- HB 5375 was passed with IE [RC 51: 37 yes, 0 no].

HB 5559 (Hummel)

HB 5559 would amend the Michigan Economic Growth Authority Act to remove a provision that prevents benefits under the act from being provided to "a site that was a vaccine laboratory owned by this state on April 1, 1995. BioPort Corporation is a vaccine manufacturer based in Lansing, Michigan. The company purchased the state-owned vaccine facility in 1998. BioPort produces the anthrax vaccine for the U.S. Department of Defense. The company is planning a major expansion of its operations. Current law prevents them from obtaining tax benefits under the Michigan Economic Growth Authority Act.

- Committee S-1 was adopted.
- HB 5559 was moved to 3rd Reading of Bills.
- HB 5559 was passed with IE [RC 55: 37 yes, 0 no].